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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

DEVELOPMENTS IN COUNTRIES ON THE COUNTERINSURGENCY LIST

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE
Office of Current Intelligence

W A R N I N G

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Developments in Countries on the
Counterinsurgency List

1. Sudan

Non-Communist political parties--led by the Ansar religious brotherhood--are making plans to force the reorganization of the Communist-dominated transitional government in Khartoum. Their demands for a reduction of Communist representation in the cabinet have been answered thus far only by a government statement flatly condemning all party activity, and the parties are now determined to resort to violence if necessary. Although hastily organized progovernment demonstrations had earlier threatened to provoke an immediate Ansar move, the parties have now reportedly agreed to hold off until after Queen Elizabeth's four-day state visit, which ends on 11 February.

The Ansar believes that it can effect a take-over by passive resistance. Should street fighting with Communist and pro-Communist elements develop, however, the parties expect that the army would support their move.

3. The parties--Ansar, National Union Party, and the Muslim Brotherhood--reportedly plan to organize a new coalition interim government and then delay the parliamentary elections until the constitutional status of the southern Negroid provinces has been determined. The parties agree with the Communists that elections must be country-wide. Negotiations between northern and southern leaders

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[redacted]

are still scheduled to begin on 12 February. Even if the meeting takes place, however, the talks will almost certainly break down before any compromise can be reached.

2. Mozambique

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[redacted]

[redacted] During his lengthy tour of Africa, Cuba's Ernesto Che Guevara several times expressed his country's support of the "liberation movement" in Mozambique.

3. Congo

The oft-delayed push to the northeast border has started. A combined mercenary-ANC force left Stanleyville on 6 February, moving toward Paulis, where it expects to join up with the garrison there and acquire additional vehicles and air support before pushing eastward. As of 8 February, the Stanleyville column was halfway to Paulis and had encountered stiff resistance--including numerous elephant-type traps for vehicles.

The operation will probably face its biggest test as it approaches the Sudan border.

[redacted] a major concentration of some 5,000-6,000 rebels is located in the Faradje-Aba-Aru triangle. There now is increasing evidence that Congolese rebel supplies are moving through Uganda and entering the Congo at Aru. Southern Sudanese dissidents have cut the Juba-Aba road and have possibly acquired some shipments intended for Congolese rebels.

Farther east, the rebels have reportedly withdrawn from the Bunia-Mahagi area, although they still control a small town between Mahagi and Lake Albert. Government units halfway to Watsa on the Bunia-Watsa road reportedly also enjoy freedom of movement with the assistance of friendly local

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tribes. Across the Ugandan border, four aircraft, DC-3 size or smaller and bearing no markings, are based at Arua, Uganda, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Some Ugandan regulars have operated with the rebels. The rebels themselves are wearing Ugandan Army uniforms, have used English ammunition [REDACTED] in recent skirmishes, and are also using better combat techniques.

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The Stanleyville security situation remains relatively quiet. Another barge convoy carrying food and fuel reached the city over the week end. West of Stanleyville, the rebels operating between the city and Boende are reportedly concentrated in and directed out of Djolu, 200 miles from Stanleyville.

ANC fortunes continue to improve in the area around Kindu, capital of Maniema Province. Many rebels are refusing to fight, their food supplies are dwindling, and a local sorceress has now hexed them.

The military situation around Fizi, 60 miles south of Uvira near Lake Tanganyika, remains basically unchanged. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] as of 1 February six Chinese instructors were in the Fizi area.

4. Thailand

Peiping's apparent increased interest in subversion in Thailand was reflected in a 4 February New China News Agency note on the formation of the Thailand Patriotic Front. The NCNA broadcast repeated without comment the six-point program of the new front calling for the overthrow of the Thanom government and the withdrawal of US forces from Thailand. The Patriotic Front was first surfaced on 23 January by a Communist-operated clandestine radio located in the North Vietnam - Laos border area. Peiping had earlier announced the formation of the Thai Independence Movement.

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The Thai Government's security sweep in Nakhon Phanom Province which began on 3 February is almost over. Official reports on the operation are not available, but Bangkok press reports indicate that at least 56 "subversives" were taken into custody.

5. Laos

Vientiane is quiet following last week's showdown between rival rightist military factions. In that confrontation, forces under Fifth Military Region commander General Kouprasith crushed rebel forces under Generals Siho and Phoumi, forcing the latter two officers to flee to Thailand. Although Kouprasith's principal antagonists are now out of the country, the rightist military is still far from united. Several key regional commanders, including Vang Pao, Khamkhong, and Phasouk, are opposed to the increasing power wielded by General Kouprasith. The neutralist military chief, Kong Le, also has expressed his concern over Kouprasith's enhanced position.

There has been no significant Communist action which we can attribute to an effort to exploit the disruption associated with the Phoumi-Siho coup attempt. Communist activity south of Thakhek, begun prior to the coup effort, appears to be relatively small-scale harassment. However, the Pathet Lao have destroyed three small bridges on Route 13. This action could be preparatory to more extensive operations. The Pathet Lao also apparently intend to press their efforts against Meo and Laotian Army positions in northern Laos.

A recent intensive build-up of AA positions and weapons in the Muong Phine area, near the junction of routes 9 and 23, probably accounts for at least some of the heavy southbound truck traffic on Route 23 in recent weeks. These defenses also suggest that the area continues to be an important logistic base for support of Communist operations.

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6. Colombia

Three policemen and a civil servant were killed when eight armed men attacked a village in Santander Department, according to an army **communiqué** of 6 February. The newly surfaced Army of National Liberation (ELN), whose leader has Cuban ties, raided the village of Simacota on 7 January in this same department.

Several small bombs were exploded in Bucaramanga and Cucuta, in the same general area, on the night of 6 February. One person was injured and damage was slight. Two suspects who confessed to membership in the ELN reportedly were found in Bucaramanga, as were leaflets attributed to the ELN.

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7. Guatemala

Since the meeting of Latin American Communists in Havana in November, the Guatemalan Communist party (PGT) and the guerrillas under Yon Sosa have apparently made progress in settling their differences and coordinating their plans against the Peralta government.

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On 9 February a bullet fired at close range, presumably by a terrorist, barely missed the US Army Mission chief in Guatemala City.

8. Venezuela

Guerrillas and army troops clashed on 5 February in northwestern Venezuela, Press reports list one officer and two guerrillas wounded.

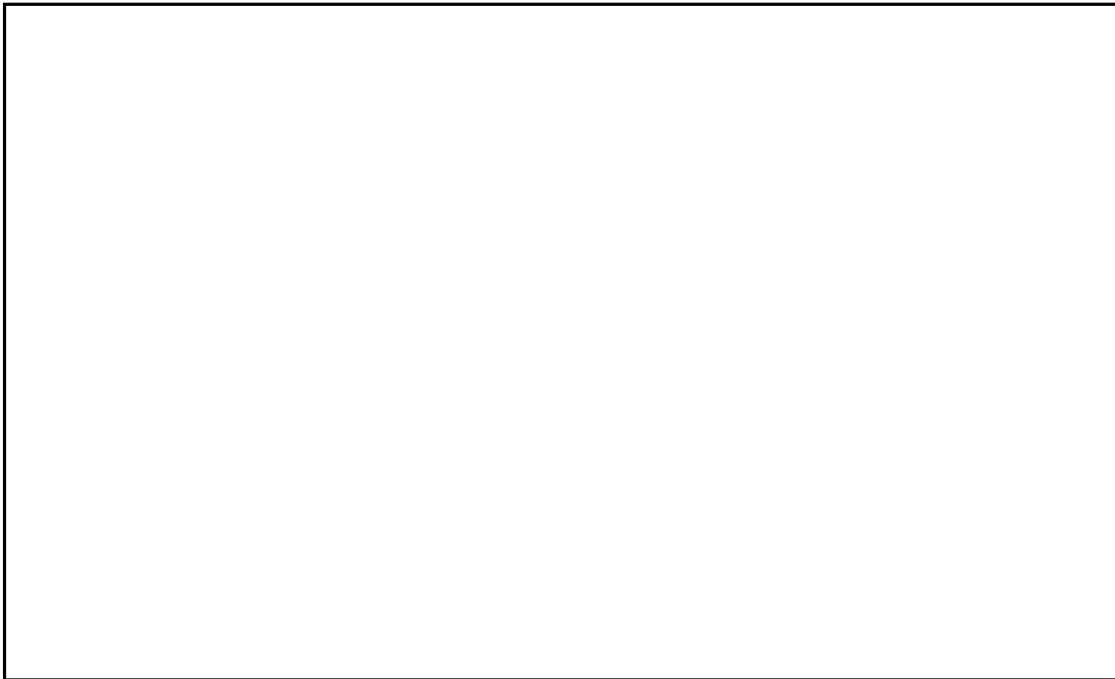
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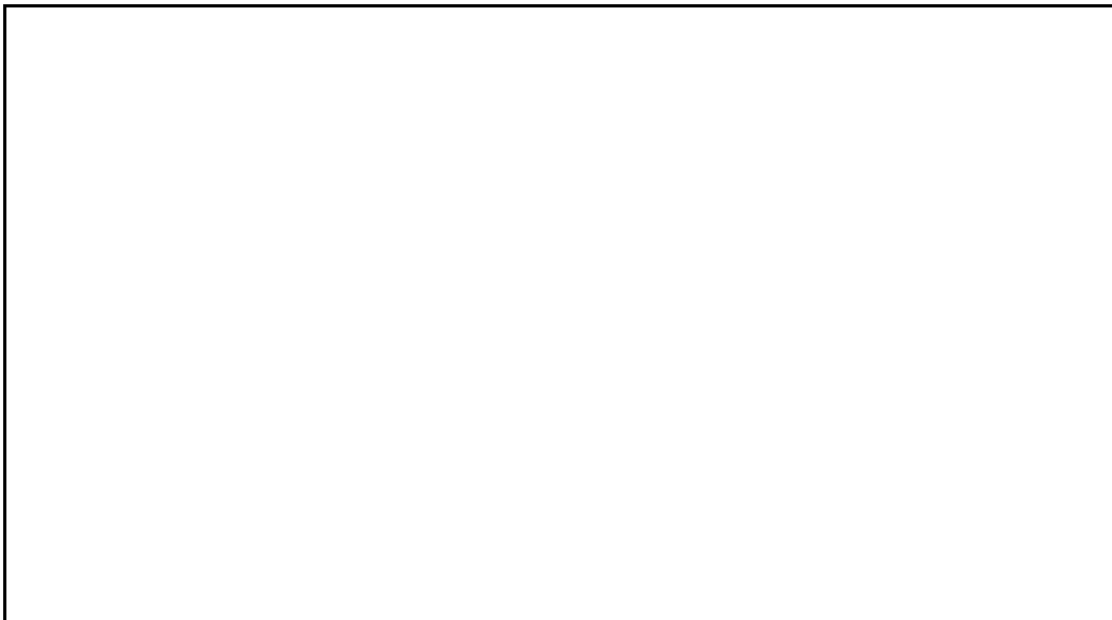
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In the east, police arrested five men including one police officer as suspects in last week's pipeline explosion. Explosives and arms were found in a raid on the policeman's home.



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9. Peru



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MIR plans may again be disrupted by a current police roundup of leftists in connection with the 30 January arson attempt against the US Army Mission headquarters in Lima.

10. Ecuador

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11. No significant developments of a counter-insurgency nature have been reported regarding Congo (Brazzaville), Burundi, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Somalia, Jordan, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Indonesia, Cambodia, Bolivia, or Brazil.

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